



FOREVER HOME

Volume 15

Camano Animal Shelter Newsletter

Issue 2
Spring 2021

CASA Mission Statement:

The mission of CASA is "Bringing together animals in need and caring people, forever enriching their lives".



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

We love to share photos of our animals and updates on events. Post your photos too with our 8,611+ Facebook followers!
www.facebook.com/camanoshelter

CASA is a Facebook Charity
Select CASA as a fundraiser recipient



Courtesy Walking Cat Design

CASA Vision:

A world in which every animal has a voice, proper care, safety, security and is free from abuse and neglect.

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CASA Website:
www.camanoanimalshelter.org
CASA E-Mail:
casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

Message from the Shelter Manager

"Quarantine" .. A word the world now not only knows but also knows why it happens and how it feels. At the shelter "quarantine" has always been a daily word and we are well educated in the "why" aspect. Any new cat comes in through the back entry and initially stays in the room we simply call "ISO", as in isolation. Its actual function is for quarantining/separating possible illness or disease from other cats already in the shelter who have been through the quarantine process already.

This room is the least likely for anyone in the public to see, but it is actually the most critical room in the shelter. What actually happens in there? Checkups, new-cat quarantine, complete separation of sick cats, blood draws, medicating, microchipping, microscope diagnostics, manager/bookkeeping office, and more. The point is - a lot happens in there.

Probably too much, but when you are strapped for space you have to make do. The desk and humans are moving out now and the space will finally be truly dedicated to quarantining and medical care for the first time. Although you might not see the changes that are set to happen in this important space, the animals and staff that care for them will.

Changing this space is even more important now that we all know a little more about what it's probably like for the cats to be secluded and have life minimized in addition to being in a new place. We are thrilled about our new opportunity to centralize quarantine and medical care to one room while also working to create an even more comfortable and quiet space for animals who might be scared or tired. We can't wait to share the changes with you (and the cats) in the months to come so keep watch for updates and photos.

Tegan Locker
Shelter Manager

Living with Lucky

Lucky is a young American Bulldog mix about four months old. She was brought to the shelter as a stray and no one came to reclaim her. When she arrived at the shelter, it was clear that her eyes were not properly formed, as if her eyeball stopped developing before it really ever started. Lucky is also deaf so it is likely that her mother either had an infection while her puppies were developing or there was some other fetal issue. Once at the shelter she had surgery to remove her eyes (enucleation surgery).



Lucky is a happy girl who loves to be outdoors.

After her eye surgery and spay surgery, Lucky was placed in a foster home where they have gotten to know just how special this little girl is and learned how to work with a deaf and blind pup. Lucky's foster provided answers to the following questions.

"How do you communicate with a deaf and blind dog ?" By using their senses of smell, taste and touch. For Lucky, she has an amazing sense of smell, loves to taste things and responds to gentle physical touch. She is very food motivated and responds well to treats and physical praise. She is a quick learner. She has already learned to sit with just a light touch on her back and will lay down with a tap to her front paw. She knows when she is about to be picked up by placing two hands gently on her middle.

See more on page 2 - Living with Lucky

Mark Your Calendar!**CASA Friends**

Currently meets monthly via Zoom.
To be placed on call list, send email to shelter with name, telephone and email.

UPCOMING EVENTS**Pet Food Drive**

Saturday, June 12th

Dog Wash

Saturday, August 21st
(Details TBD)

Visit the CASA booth at Farmer's Market June 4th and later in the summer.

Board Members**President:**

Martha Huyler

Vice President:

Sara Schmitt

Treasurer:

Cathy Massimino

Secretaries:

Gloria Ingrassia

Wendy Weaver

Members at Large:

John Cole

Jim Howard

Staff:**Shelter Manager:**

Tegan Locker

Shelter Staff:

Casey R.

Deidre M.

Gillian T.

Rebecca S.

Susan E.

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Camano Island, WA
98282

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P.O. Box 1726
Stanwood, WA
98292

Phone:

360-387-1902

Hours:

Wed - Fri 11 - 3

Sat 11 - 4

Sun 11 - 3

Mon & Tues Closed
(Masks required)

(Continued from Page 1, Living with Lucky)

"Can she be house trained?" Yes! House training isn't much much different than with a typical puppy. Crate training and frequent potty breaks have been key. The addition of a scent (vanilla) was placed by the door to outside to help her find the door to go out. She was initially walked on a leash in the yard to make sure her still healing eye area was protected and until the yard became familiar. When in her crate, she will bark when she needs to potty. Using a similar method (scent) she should be able to use a dog door into a securely fenced yard.



Lucky has a special halo to help her navigate outside.

In the house, Lucky has learned her way around and can navigate with only occasionally bumping into walls. She now has a vest with an attached halo that sticks out and alerts her to obstacles before she hits them. Establishing a routine and consistent place to rest was needed. Her crate was placed in a room off the kitchen, away from the flow of activity. Even though she can't see or hear, she picks up on smells as people walk by. In her crates she rests well without interruption. Her blankets are scented with a faint lavender spray which again helps to orient her to her surroundings and allows her to put herself to bed if she wants.

"Can Lucky climb stairs?" So far she has learned to easily go up the two entry steps into the house and is working on going down stairs. Using a mat at the top and bottom of stairs helps her know where the start of the stairs are.

"How do you play with a deaf and blind puppy?" Playtime is much like any typical puppy. She loves filled bones, kong toys, rope toys and finding hidden treats. She is also content to just hang out in the yard, soaking up the smells and warm sunshine. Meal times are turned into an opportunity to mentally challenge her. She has a puzzle feeder dish, is hand fed some of her meal and her food can be placed in several dishes around her feeding area for her to find.

"Can Lucky go for a walk like a typical dog?" Absolutely! And Lucky loves to run! She can run off leash in a secure yard or on leash in a wide open area. She currently prefers wide open space where she can run but will go for very leisurely (slow) walks on trails too. She rides nicely in the car in a crate.

"How does Lucky react to cats/other animals?" Lucky will bark at times when she smells the resident cats (less barking with time), but hasn't tried to find them and the cats seem to know that she can't see them and therefore doesn't chase them.

"Is Lucky happy?" Lucky is a very happy girl. Her lack of sight and hearing may seem sad, but she doesn't know any different. She is quick to give her family members an enthusiastic welcome and likes to think she is a lap dog. She quickly loves everyone she meets.

Lucky's next step will be finding a forever home, someone who will love and care for her while she brings joy to their lives.

Thanks to Amy Tierra and her family for caring for Lucky and sharing their experiences.

Have you adopted from CASA?

Send us an email with a photo of your pet and we'll include it in our next newsletter!
Please be sure to include the full name of your pet and the month/year adopted.

Have a Happy Tail? Send that also.

CASA's email address is: casa@camanoanimalshelter.org.

CASA Alumni

**THANK YOU
BUSINESS MEMBERS!**

- AAA Camano Heated Storage
- Advantage Accounting & Tax Services
- Affordable Pet Care
- Apollo Concrete Sawing, Inc.
- AWR Inc. / General Contractor
- Berg's Bookkeeping & Tax Service
- Bigfoot Lock Service
- Camaloch Golf Course
- Camano Body Shop, Inc.
- Camano Canine Resort
- Camano Center
- Camano Storage
- Camano Veterinary Clinic
- Cat Nap Inn
- Certified Services Auto & Truck Repair
- Coastal Community Bank
- Cutting Edge Concrete
- Darrow's Carpet
- Eastside Salon
- Edward Jones - Brenna Casey*
- Elger Bay Store
- Furry Friends Pet Sitters
- Glass Tech Stanwood, Inc.
- Hamilton Lumber, LLC
- Happy House Construction Co.
- Heritage Bank
- His Biz Painting
- Invisible Fence Brand of Seattle
- Krista's Pet Spaw
- Lenz Enterprises
- Mission Motors
- MGM Designs, Inc.*
- Movement Arts Yoga and Pilates
- Northwest Veterinary Clinic – Stanwood
- Orchard's Nursery
- Process Solutions, Inc.
- Puget Sound Tree Care LLC
- Regal Construction
- SchaSam Farms LLC
- Seven Lakes Dental
- Stanwood Hearing
- State Farm Ins. – Leslie Tripp Agency
- Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
- Stilly River Mechanical
- Taylor's Excavating, Inc.
- Thomas & Lee / Sothebys Realty
- TimLabs: Windows Computer Services
- Tulalip Tribes
- Twin City Lanes
- Washington Federal
- Windermere Real Estate

* New Business Member



Luna (Stardust) Parris
Adopted Jan 2020



Max (Poof) Galper
Adopted Oct 2020

Paws for Applause

- ◆ Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
- ◆ Tulalip Tribe
- ◆ King County Giving Program
- ◆ Amazon Smile - \$7578.46 to CASA since 2014
- ◆ SAAL Brewing – Fundraiser in memory of Barney
- ◆ Henry Glassett for selecting CASA as the recipient of the CPI Plumbing Golden Wrench Award



Volunteers Needed!

Dog Walking

Experienced weekday dog walkers. (must be 18 years old)

Yard Work/Gardening

The gardens next to the shelter and along the road both need ongoing maintenance (and watering in the summer). Join a team that helps keep the gardens beautiful.

We also need volunteers with special skills/experience to assist us with projects.

Marketing and Fundraising

- Graphic Design (Web and/or Print)
- Social Media and PR
- Animal Photography

Professional Experience

- Pro-bono auditor
- Policy and procedure writer/editor

Questions? email
casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

Leave a Legacy of Love

Please remember the animals when you prepare your will or trust documents. Your gift of love and compassion will make a life-saving difference for the animals who are counting on us. To leave a bequest, simply write:

"I give to the Camano Animal Shelter Association, 198 Can Ku Road, Camano Island, Washington 98282 (PO Box 1726, Stanwood, Washington 98292), federal tax ID number 91-1913293, (the sum of \$_____ or _____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) for its general purposes." If your gift involves insurance policies, land, stock or other property, please include a description.



HAPPY TAILS

Cora Lee

My wife and I have had as many as four rescue dogs at one time, but in the last year or so, two got old and died, so we were down to two. One day about a month ago, CASA called asking if we'd mind taking a look at Cora because she wasn't doing well at the shelter and had been there for some time. Of course, we said, "yes."

She came out to the common area to meet and immediately growled - didn't seem she was going bite, just afraid. We liked her right away - small, but spunky. We got her home and introduced her to the other two dogs, both fixed males. They were curious and checked her out for a few minutes, then just carried on - our little pack had become one.

Our current number one became number one by default when the other dogs died. He wasn't really interested in being number one, so when Cora stepped up, there was no conflict - everyone just settled in to the new order. She's a fine dog; well trained and very smart. She and the other dogs quickly became fast friends, following Cora around the house and yard. She fits in just like she belongs here.

~ Russell Lee



Spunky Cora (right) rests with her new friend.

Carla

We had been looking for just the right cat on and off for six months before we found Carla. We wanted a strong-willed cat to stand up to our daughter's dog, who would still be cuddly and have personality. She needed to be an only cat as we have mild allergies that won't allow for multiple cats in the house.

Carla with her tortitude is a perfect fit for our home, we can't imagine a more delightful cat. She loves playing fetch with her little toy mice, and presents them to us very proudly. Thankfully, no live ones as she is still staying indoors! She loves snuggling up under the covers with us at night. She has our daughter's shepherd/retriever cowed into complete submission but can't resist a warm lap, especially when we sit in a certain chair.

She was returned because she was too affectionate, how is that even possible? She does let you know when she's not done being petted by reaching out to pull your hand back. We have had 5 or 6 other cats through the years, but Carla is by far our favorite. She is all a cat should be and more! Thank you for keeping this sweet little stray just for us.

~ Cynthia and Dan Montzingo



Carla has "tortitude".

Dillon



Dillon is truly loved.

As a volunteer I was privileged to meet Dillon when he arrived at CASA. Dillon, a 2 year old pup who had no human handling and had been housed in a crate with his 2 brothers. No playful puppy years for Dillon. His skin was red and scabbed with hair loss and he was underweight. I had to wrap him in a towel to get to the car. He had never been outside to do his "business". His first act of wanting to belong was to put his front paws on my leg, lift a paw to get his chest rubbed

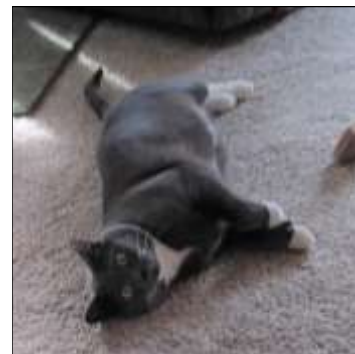
Dillon loves going outside now, nose to the ground for new smells. He is a faithful companion and constant lap sitter. Still a work in progress, but worth it! Dillon lives with my 11 year old cat who maintains order with her "mean face" look.

~ Patty Prentice

Peter

Peter is by every sense of the word "the king of the castle". He enjoys his own room complete with his own full bed and cat tower. He is the most curious, mischievous, and interesting cat I have ever met. He has quite the personality. If you plan on sleeping in ...well forget it. Peter is up at 5:30 every morning and will not let you go back to bed. He climbs everything he can and even things he can't. He picks out his dry food pieces and adds them to his moist food dish. It seems like a lot of work for each meal, but he does it every day. Peter is well ...quite the adventurer and quite an addition to the family.

~ Brenda Rossnagle



Peter is "King of the Castle".

Binky (formerly Dude)

In early December, my fiancé and I decided to add a furry member to our family specifically a pitbull. We looked at numerous shelters, and couldn't quite find a dog that would fit our forever home. After a few looks and no replies we felt like maybe it wasn't going to be in the cards. On that fateful December day, we stumbled across the CASA website and saw an adorable pittie named Dude and both of us were in awe of how such a handsome boy could be looking for a home. It dawned on us that maybe while we were looking, it was him we were looking for all along.

The second we laid eyes on him in person was all it took to know that this dude was going to be ours! We took him for a meet and greet walk at the park nearby and decided that we are not going home without him. Dude has since been renamed "Binky" and every day with him is an absolute blast!!

He's now crate trained, potty trained, knows a handful of tricks. He loves all his toys and treats and even grew fond of the shirts and hoodies Andrea bought him. Binky is just as fond of hanging out on the couch and relaxing as he is running around with us for hours outside. He loves all people and sometimes forgets how big he is but nonetheless everyone is happy around Binky. He's recently made friends with Belle the Great Dane, and Charly the Catahoula. We're very grateful we were given the opportunity to adopt him and he's every part of our family as any other member!

~ Edgar Villanueva and Andrea Paita



Binky loves everyone.

Alexis and David



David is a cuddle buddy.

Alexis and David have been such a fun burst of new energy added to the household. I adopted them after losing my 19.5 year old cat. Kiora (also a CASA alumni) and I were missing our buddy. Alexis and David are still learning to give Kiora her space. They are fascinated (or maybe obsessed) by her, but she is working on teaching them manners and proper social distancing.

David and his mother, Alexis, spend so much time together playing and snuggling, I can see why CASA wanted to keep them together as a bonded pair. David, with his boundless energy loves playing with toys or anything that looks like a toy. He is also fascinated with water, birds, the picture on the television or anything else that moves. When he finally wears himself out after playing he is an excellent cuddle buddy.

Alexis is a doting mother but since she was such a young mother, she also doubles as a sister. She loves to play chase with David and also enjoys playing with a wide selection of toys. Alexis really becomes animated at breakfast and dinner time, food makes her



Alexis is a doting mother.

super talkative! She also has a sneaky side that I find humorous, but Kiora is still trying to find the humor in it. We'll get there eventually. Thanks to CASA for letting me bring these two into the family!

~ Jessica Bowman

Shelter Improvement Update

The long awaited offices have been constructed in the area vacated by the Parks Department in this county-owned structure. Once furnished*, they will be occupied by the shelter manager and volunteer treasurer/bookkeeper. For years the cat intake/isolation room (ISO) doubled as an office; the small desk in the corner of the room and array of large file cabinets were shared by these workers. This was not an ideal situation for the cats or the people.

ISO is the focus of the next shelter improvement project. The desk, file cabinets, and stored items will be removed and a new easy to clean floor will be installed. This will provide an environment for the cats which is much easier to sanitize. Medical supplies will also be moved into the ISO room where they can be easily accessed.

Meanwhile, more work is needed in the "new area" to provide supply storage and a small staff/volunteer break area. It is a logistical challenge (where to place cages, etc.) while the improvements are being made since our space is still very small. We are excited that, in the long run, these improvements will help not only the dogs and cats who call CASA home, but the staff and volunteers who care for them.



Another door in the Laundry Room leads to the shelter manager's new office

** Keep checking our Amazon Wish List, Facebook and website to see how you can help furnish these rooms.*

Life Inside the Shelter

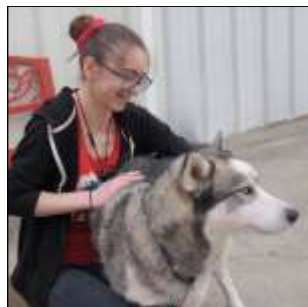
It is hard to believe that it has been over a year since COVID changed all our lives. The dogs and the cats here at the shelter continue to thrive and find great homes despite the difficult time we humans have had adjusting to the pandemic. There are many things we miss about life before the outbreak such as our fundraising and outreach activities, e.g. plant sale, bake sale, microchip clinic and car wash.

Within the shelter we miss the day to day interaction with people and of course all our volunteers! We miss the freedom of being able to open the door and allow people in that just need a few minutes of petting a dog or a cat to come in. We hope we can get back to that soon as there is nothing like a cat or a dog cuddle to make a bad day seem a bit better.

There are certain benefits to changes we have had to make during the last year as well. We are able to spend more one on one time with our cats and dogs. This allows us to know them better and helps us place them in a perfect forever home.

We are also able to have more open conversations with applicants before they make the trip to CASA and help make the right match for the pets and the adopters. It has enabled people to privately meet animals without interruptions in order to get to know the animal they have applied for.

Moving forward we hope that we can find the right blend of old and new and continue to find the best homes for all the pets that we are lucky enough to care for! The shelter is still operating by appointment only. Reminder that we require all indoor visitors wear masks and must limit the number of guests at a time.



Shelter staff: Becca, Deidre and Gillian enjoy their one on one time with the cats and dogs.

**In loving memory of
departed pets**



- ♥ Barney Birkenkopf
- ♥ Brooklyn Montgomery
- ♥ Chewy Brehm
- ♥ Daisy Dobbelaere
- ♥ Gary Cat Rife
- ♥ Ozzy Petroskie
- ♥ Paco Tredo
- ♥ Precious Massimino
- ♥ Spike Rouble
- ♥ Spryte Massimino
- ♥ Tessa Massimino

Did you know you can make a difference?

That your tax-deductible charitable gift of:

- \$25** can provide vaccines for one animal
- \$50** can provide KMR milk replacement formula for a litter of kittens or vital blood and urinalysis lab work for one sick and/or senior animal
- \$100** can provide three months of basic care for a typical long-term animal
- \$250** can provide dental cleaning and extractions for an older cat/dog or provide a FIV/FelV blood tests for 17 cats.

Our Shelter Wish List

- PET SUPPLIES: Cat litter or pellets (our greatest need)
- GENERAL SUPPLIES: Dryer sheets, Liquid dish soap (no anti-bacterial)
- OFFICE SUPPLIES: Standard letter size white copy paper, US Postal stamps
- PET FOOD: KMR – Liquid Kitten Milk Replacement, Baby food (small jars of pureed meats) Royal Canin “Babycat” and Kitten dry food, Canned kitten food, Dry Kirkland cat food (Costco), Canned cat food (no 9 Lives) Dry Grain-Free Zignature Whitefish Dog Food (Julz Animal Houz), Large raw knuckle bones (from butcher), soft treats and grain-free treats

Visit [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)
Enter “Camano Animal Shelter” to see our Wish List
Or click on Amazon Wish List from our website.
When you place an order from our Amazon.com wish list, your donations will be shipped directly to our shelter!



----- **YES . . . I WANT TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED** -----

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of:

\$25 \$40 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

- Single Membership (\$25) Family Membership (\$40)
- Business Membership (\$100) (includes free decals)
- My donation is in Memory/in Honor of a person or pet
(Please include a note with honoree’s name and contact person if you want the gift acknowledged)
- Please send my gift receipt via e-mail so more of my contribution can go toward helping the animals
(Please provide e-mail address on the form to the left.)
- I do not need a receipt for my donation.
- My employer will match my gift. Enclosed is my completed matching gift form.
- I am interested in becoming a volunteer.
- BAKE AND PLANT SALE DONATION

CASA does not share/sell donor information, and every dollar you give makes a difference. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization and no-kill shelter. Federal Tax ID #91-1913293

CASA appreciates your generosity. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. By providing your email address, you are giving permission to be included in our eNews communications. You may opt out at any time and we never share your information.



Camano Animal Shelter Association
198 Can Ku Road Camano Island, WA 98282
360-387-1902 www.camanoanimalshelter.org



CASA ANIMALS ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF FOREVER HOMES — CASA NEWS



BAKE/PLANT SALE CANCELLED

Once again we have had to cancel our annual Bake and Plant sale, but you can still help the animals by sending a donation noting your contribution is for the Bake and Plant Sale. (See form on page 7.)

SUPPORT CASA WHILE YOU SHOP

When you shop Amazon, you can link your account to CASA and we will receive a donation from **Amazon Smile**. No cost to shoppers.



Sign up at www.smile.amazon.com.



BUSINESSES — DONATION BOXES!

Featured location this period:

**Ace Hardware
Camano Plaza**

DOG DNA KITS

CASA sells Wisdom Panel DNA testing kits. Just \$69 + tax and you can finally put that long running family bet on what Fido is to rest.



To make a donation from your mobile phone, just scan the QR code.

DONATE YOUR CAR

Our vehicle donation program is made possible by Donate for Charity. When you are ready to donate your car or boat, you may call Donate For Charity toll-free at (866) 392-4483 or donate online at

www.donateforcharity.com



Read about Living with Lucky. . . .



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